

2013

BLACK BEAR

Montana Hunting Regulations



*Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks*



American black bear *Ursus americanus*. Photo by Jaime & Lisa Johnson

Apply for General Licenses, Special Licenses, and SuperTags Online: fwp.mt.gov

Regulations Adopted by FWP Commission

These regulations are adopted under the authority granted to the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission (FWPC) in MCA 87-1-301 and are valid March 1, 2013, through February 28, 2014. These regulations were adopted by the FWPC on February 14, 2013. The FWPC reserves the authority to amend the seasons, limits and regulations herein if deemed necessary for wildlife management purposes. Jeff Hagener, Director.

State and Federal laws, Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, or disability. Anyone believing he or she has been discriminated against (as described above) in any Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) program, activity, or facility may write to FWP Personnel Office, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701 or the office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

What's New & Reminders

- See license chart for black bear license purchase stipulations.
- 48 hour reporting requirement for black bear hunting in Bear Management Units (BMUs) 510, 520 & 700.

License Chart

License	Cost		Stipulations
	Resident	Non-resident	
Conservation	\$8	\$10	Required prerequisite
Hunting Access Enhancement Fee	\$2	\$10	Fee charged annually at the time the hunter purchases his/her first hunting license for the current license year.
Black Bear	\$19	\$350	<p><u>Youth License Purchase:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resident or nonresident youth 11 years of age is entitled to purchase a black bear license. Proof of hunter education must be presented at the time of purchase. • A resident or nonresident youth who will reach 12 years of age by January 16, 2014 may hunt any game species, for which their license is valid, after August 15 of the 2013 license year. <p><u>Spring and Fall License Purchase Restrictions:</u></p> <p>Spring Season: A black bear license purchased after April 14 may not be used until 5 days after the license is issued.</p> <p>Fall Season: A black bear license purchased after August 31 may not be used until 5 days after the license is issued.</p>
Bow and Arrow (Archery)	\$10	\$10	A bow and arrow license, plus the proper hunting license is required during black bear Archery Only Season or to archery hunt black bear in an Arch-Equip only area or hunting district.
Black Bear Identification Test Certificate Required	Free	Free	<p>A hunter must take and pass a "black bear identification test" before purchasing a black bear hunting license. A hunter must present a certificate of completion issued by FWP at the time of purchase. The test is available online at:</p> <p>http://fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter/bearID/</p>

Licensing – General

- A hunter may purchase only one black bear license per year.
- The licenses listed in the license chart are available at FWP offices, FWP website at fwp.mt.gov, and FWP license providers.
- Replacements of lost, stolen or destroyed licenses may be purchased at FWP offices and FWP License Providers. A second duplicate license for the same species within a two-year period may only be purchased at an FWP office. A person cannot replace a license requiring a carcass tag a third time for the same species within a two-year period. A fee of \$5 per license will be charged for each duplicate license.
- **It is unlawful to:**
 - Swear or affirm to a false statement in order to obtain a duplicate license.
 - Possess an original as well as a duplicate license(s). If the original is found, it must be returned to FWP at any regional office.
 - Allow a license of any type to be used by another person.
- Montana is a member of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. Under the compact, member states recognize suspensions of hunting, fishing or trapping privileges. It is illegal for a violator whose privilege to hunt, fish or trap is suspended to obtain or attempt to obtain a license, tag or permit in a member state. For more information, call 406-444-2452.

Hunter Education for Firearm and Archery

- If you were born after January 1, 1985, you are required to show proof of completing a Montana hunter safety and education course (or an approved hunter safety course from any other state or province) prior to applying for or purchasing a hunting license, whether the hunting license is for the rifle or archery season.
- Montana law requires members of the armed forces and their dependents stationed in Montana to present a Montana hunter education certificate or similar certificate from any state or province when purchasing any Montana hunting license.
- Duplicates – Montana certificates of completion for the Montana hunter education and/or bowhunter education courses may be obtained from FWP's website at fwp.mt.gov.

Bowhunter Education Requirements

- To purchase a Montana bow and arrow license, a hunter must:
 - Provide a certificate of completing the National Bowhunter Education Foundation course, or
 - Provide any prior year's bowhunting/archery stamp, tag, permit, or license from any state or province. If you can no longer produce this license, for a \$5 fee you may sign an affidavit stating that you previously held such a license. The affidavit is available at all FWP License Providers. The affidavit entitles you to purchase a current year's Montana bow and arrow license.

State School Trust Lands Recreational Use License

- The Conservation License allows hunters, anglers and trappers access to all legally accessible state school trust lands.

Licensing – Residency

It is illegal to swear to or to affirm a false statement in order to obtain an original or duplicate resident hunting and/or fishing license OR to assist an unqualified applicant in obtaining a resident license.

Armed Forces

- A member of the regular armed forces of the United States, a member's dependent who resides in the member's Montana household, or a member of the armed forces of a foreign government attached to the regular armed forces of the United States is considered a resident for Montana hunting, fishing and trapping licenses if:
 - The member was a resident of Montana under the provisions listed under residency at the time the member entered the armed forces and continues to meet these residency criteria; or
 - The member is currently stationed in and assigned to active duty in Montana, has resided in Montana for a least 30 days, and presents official assignment orders and a certificate verifying successful completion of an approved hunter safety course from any state or province.

Nonresident

- Nonresident unmarried minors, at least 12 but not older than 17 years of age, can hunt in Montana as a resident if the minor's parents, legal guardian, or parent with joint custody, sole custody, or visitation rights is a legal resident of Montana.

Resident

- To be a legal Montana resident and eligible to purchase any Montana resident fishing, hunting, and trapping license, as per MCA 87-2-102, you must:
 - have been physically living in Montana for at least 180 consecutive days immediately prior to purchasing a resident license;
 - register your vehicle(s) in Montana;
 - be registered to vote in Montana if you're registered to vote at all;
 - not possess current (or have applied for any) resident hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges in another state or country;
 - file Montana state income tax returns as a resident, if you are required to file.
- To purchase an annual resident conservation license you will be required to show a valid Montana Driver's License (MDL), a valid Montana Identification Card (MIC) or a valid Tribal Identification Card.
- If your MDL or MIC has been issued for less than six months, you may be required to show additional proof of residency. An out-of-state driver's license is NOT an acceptable form of ID for resident license purchases. Contact your local FWP office for specifics.
- Once you have established your residency, you must continue to meet all these requirements and physically reside in Montana as your principal or primary place of abode for not less than 120 days per year (days need not be consecutive).
- A person is NOT considered a resident for the purposes of this section if the person:
 - claims residence in any other state or country for any purpose; or
 - is an absentee property owner paying property tax on property in Montana.

Hunter with a Disability

If you or someone you know has a disability and/or is aging, and is in need of assistive technology (AT) or adaptive equipment to facilitate participation in outdoor recreation, please contact MonTECH at the University of Montana Rural Institute at 700 SW Higgins Ave., Suite 250, Missoula, MT 59803; 877-243-5511.

Hunter Land Access

Hunters, it is your responsibility to know where you are, to know who owns the land, and to know what access restrictions apply.

Fishing Access Sites

Many of FWP's fishing access sites (FAS) offer hunting opportunities; however certain restrictions may apply such as no-hunting safety zones and/or restrictions on the type of hunting weapon or firearm that may be used. Refer to the Fishing Access Site web page at fwp.mt.gov/recreation/visitFwpSite.html for site specific information opportunities and restrictions.

Montana State Parks

Some of Montana's state parks provide hunting opportunities; however certain restrictions may apply such as no-hunting safety zones and/or restrictions on the type of hunting weapon or firearm that may be used. Contact the specific park and/or refer to the Montana State Park web page at stateparks.mt.gov for site specific information regarding hunting opportunities and restrictions.

Off-Road Travel and Game Retrieval

- While hunting on private property, a person may not drive off established roads or trails without landowner permission.
- Off-road travel on public land, including game retrieval, is prohibited unless designated as open. Consult appropriate land agency or land map for specifics.
- All federally approved travel plans on public lands in Montana are hereby adopted by the FWP Commission.

Private Land

- Montana law requires permission for all hunting on private land.
- Even if the land is not posted, hunters must have permission from the landowner, lessee, or their agent before hunting on private property.
- Access to public lands through private land requires permission of the private landowner, lessee, or their agent.
- See the Deer•Elk•Antelope Regulations for information on FWP's Block Management Program.

Public Land

- Public lands closed to hunting include:
 - National Parks
 - National Wildlife Refuge lands, except those areas designated open to public hunting.
- For hunting opportunities on federal lands such as U.S. Forest Service or U.S. Bureau of Land Management, inquire at the local federal office.

Railroad Access

Railroads and railroad right-of-ways are private property and may not be hunted without permission, nor should they be used as access to other lands (private or public) without explicit permission from the railroad.

State Game Preserves

State game preserves may or may not be open to limited hunting. See Areas Closed or Limited to Hunting Methods for Big Game.

State School Trust Lands

- A \$2 fee paid when you purchase your conservation license provides hunters, anglers and trappers access to legally accessible State School Trust Lands.
- Overnight (2 night) camping is allowed within 200 feet of a legal access point.
- Horses may not be kept on state land overnight.
- Motorized travel is only allowed on public roads or on roads designated as open.
- Game retrieval is by foot or horse only.
- No open fires are allowed except in designated campgrounds.
- Firearms may not be negligently discharged within one-quarter mile of an inhabited dwelling or outbuilding without permission of the inhabitant.
- Additional information is available from FWP or contact DNRC at 406-444-2074.

State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA)

Wildlife Management Areas are generally open to hunting during the big game hunting season. WMAs with big game winter range are closed to public entry, unless otherwise posted, from the day following the end of the general deer-elk season or December 1, whichever is later, to noon on May 15 each year, as posted.

Exception: There are several exceptions to these guidelines. For WMA specific information, please call the Regional office (see page 16 for contact numbers) or visit the FWP website at: <http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/wma/>

Stream Access

Big game hunting between the ordinary high-water marks of streams and rivers is illegal without adjacent landowner permission.

Tribal Land

Big Game hunting by Non-Tribal members on Indian Reservations is prohibited by the State of Montana unless it is provided for in a cooperative agreement between the Tribal Government and the State of Montana. Check with local Tribal Government before attempting to hunt on an Indian Reservation. See "Contacts Outside FWP" on page 16.

Waste of Game

Hunters, or persons in possession of a game animal or game animal parts, are prohibited from wasting or rendering unfit for human consumption, any part of a game animal that is defined as "suitable for food."

- Definition of parts of a black bear that are considered suitable for food: All four quarters above the hock, including loin and backstraps.

Hunters are prohibited from wasting black bear meat unless the meat is determined to contain trichinella. No replacement license will be issued for black bear which are determined to contain trichinella, ARM 12.3.404.

Trichinella Testing

This testing is optional and free-of-charge. Send one-third of the tongue or equal size muscle tissue to: FWP Wildlife Research Lab, Box 173220, Bozeman, MT 59717-3220. A mail-in kit may be requested from any FWP regional or area office.

Procedures to Follow After Harvesting an Animal

Evidence Required of Game Animal's Sex and Species

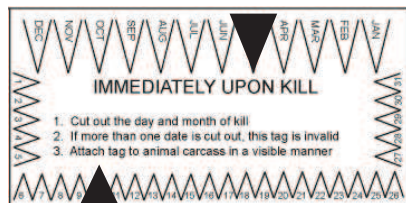
- It is illegal to possess or transport the carcass of any big game animal unless evidence of the animal's sex and species remains naturally attached to its carcass or a portion of the carcass.
- Evidence of sex must remain naturally attached to the hide. The following are considered lawful evidence of sex:
 - males: testicles or baculum;
 - females: vulva.
- As a condition of hunting in Montana, you may be required to return to the kill site if requested to do so by an FWP employee.

License Validation and Tagging

- Immediately after killing a game animal, a hunter must cut out the proper month and day of the kill from the appropriate license and attach it to the animal in a secure and visible manner.
- Carcass/Hide Tag Clarification: Successful black bear hunters are required to

immediately validate the hide tag and carcass tag and attach both to the hide. After the hide is removed from the carcass, the carcass tag must be separated from the hide tag and attached to the carcass.

- To properly validate a license (sometimes referred to as a tag):
 - The triangles denoting the month and day the animal was killed must be completely removed.
 - Tearing, slicing or punching the tag is not legal.



- The properly validated carcass license must remain with the meat (including cold storage) until consumed. If quartered, the carcass license should remain with the largest portion of the carcass.

Mandatory Reporting Requirements

Within five (5) days of harvesting a black bear (or within five days of arriving at a trailhead in backcountry areas) the successful hunter must present to a Montana FWP official the complete bear hide (with proof of sex remaining naturally attached) and skull for the purpose of inspection, tagging and removal of a tooth (for aging). The FWP hide tag affixed during inspection must thereafter remain attached to the hide until tanned.

Harvest Reporting1-877-FWP-WILD or 1-877-397-9453

OR.....406-444-0356

NOTE: There is a **mandatory** 48 hour reporting requirement for black bear hunting in Bear Management Units (BMUs) 510, 520 and 700.

Methods and Means of Hunting

Firearms

During the General Season

- There is no rifle or handgun caliber limitation for the taking of big game animals.
- Muzzleloaders, shotguns, archery equipment, and crossbows are legal.
- The possession of firearms with silencers while afield is illegal.

Archery Equipment

During the Archery Only Season and in archery equipment only (ArchEquip Only) areas:

- It is unlawful to use any chemical or explosive device attached to an arrow to aid in the taking of wildlife.
- Lawful Archery Equipment: It is illegal to possess, while hunting big game during any archery only season and in archery equipment only areas, archery equipment that does not meet the following criteria:
 - Hunting Bow: A hunting bow for big game shall be a longbow, flatbow, recurve bow, compound bow, or any combination of these designs.
 - The bow must be a device for launching an arrow, which derives its propulsive energy solely from the bending and recovery of two limbs (includes bows with split limbs).
 - The bow must be hand drawn by a single and direct uninterrupted pulling action of the shooter.
 - The bow must be hand-held. One hand shall hold the bow and the other hand draw the bowstring. Exception: Physically disabled bowhunters certified by FWP with the Permit To Modify Archery Equipment (PTMAE) are exempt from the requirement of holding or shooting the bow with their hands.
 - The bow shall be no shorter than 28 inches measured axle to axle.
 - The nominal percent of let-off for hunting bows shall be a maximum of 80 percent.
 - Arrow: An arrow is a projectile at least 20 inches in overall length. The length of the arrow is measured from the rearward point of the nock to the tip of the broadhead.
 - A broadhead is mounted on the fore end.
 - The arrow shall weigh no less than 300 grains with the broadhead attached.
 - Arrows must have broadheads with at least two cutting edges. Expandable broadheads are legal as long as when expanded they are at least 7/8 inches at the widest point, and weigh no less than 70 grains.

• The following are not considered a hunting bow or legal archery equipment during the Archery Only Season or in an ArchEquip Only area or Bear Management Unit (BMU):

- Crossbow.
- Any device with a gun-type stock or incorporating any device or mechanism that holds the bowstring at partial or full draw without the shooter's muscle power.
- Any bow for which a portion of the bow's riser (handle) or any track, trough, channel, or other device that attaches directly to the bow's riser contacts, supports, and/or guides the arrow from a point rearward of the bow's brace height. This is not intended to restrict the use of standard overdraw systems.
- Electronic or battery-powered devices attached to a hunting bow.
- A bow sight or arrow which uses artificial light, luminous chemicals such as tritium, or electronics.

Weapons Restriction Areas

Weapons restrictions are in effect in some hunting districts. Such restrictions are stated in the license/permit description and/or with a specific date range.

The following equipment restrictions apply to Weapons Restriction Areas:

Muzzleloader

- must not be capable of being loaded from the breech of the barrel;
- may not be loaded with any pre-prepared paper or metallic cartridges;
- must be charged with black powder, pyrodex, or an equivalent;
- must be ignited by a percussion, flintlock, matchlock, or wheellock mechanism;
- must be a minimum of .45 caliber;
- may have no more than two barrels; and
- must only use plain lead projectiles (not sabots or similar projectiles).

Traditional Handgun

- must not be capable of being shoulder mounted;
- must have a barrel length of less than 10 ½ inches; and
- must chamber only a straight wall cartridge, not originally developed for rifles.

Shotgun

- Must be a shouldered, breech-loaded or muzzle-loaded firearm with a smooth bore and/or rifled barrel and/or rifled choke device designed to fire shot or slugs.

Archery

- See legal archery equipment in the "Methods and Means of Hunting" section.

Crossbows

- Legal in weapons restriction areas unless exception noted in specific hunting district regulations.

Prohibited Methods of Hunting

Airplane Spotting

Aircraft may not be used to locate big game animals for the purpose of:

- hunting those animals during the same hunting day after a person has been airborne, or
- providing information to another person for the purpose of hunting those animals within the same hunting day after being airborne.

Artificial Light

It is illegal for anyone to take or attempt to take any game animal or game bird with the aid of projected artificial light.

Baiting

- It is illegal for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt by the aid of or with the use of any bait, salt lick, trap, snare or set gun.
- Baiting shall mean the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of food sources or salt so as to constitute a lure or attraction.

Dogs

It is illegal to bait bears or to hunt bears with dogs. No scents may be used to attract black bears.

Game Calls

It is illegal to use a recorded or electrically amplified game call to hunt big game.

Motion-Tracking Devices and/or Camera Devices

It is illegal for a person to possess or use in the field any electronic or camera device whose purpose is to scout the location of game animals or relay the information on a game animal's location or movement during any Commission-adopted hunting season.

Motorized Vehicles

It is illegal for anyone to:

- Hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal or game bird: from any self propelled (motorized) or drawn vehicle. Even if the vehicle is not moving, hunters must be off or out of the vehicle. Holders of Permit To Hunt From A Vehicle are the exception to this.
- Use a motorized vehicle or aircraft to concentrate, drive, rally, stir-up, corral, or harass game animals.
- Operate, on public lands, a motorized wheeled vehicle off legal routes (including game retrieval). Contact the appropriate land management agencies for travel plan information.

Night Vision Equipment

It is illegal to use night vision equipment or electronically enhanced light gathering optics for locating or hunting game.

Public Roadways

It is illegal for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal or game bird: on, from, or across any public highway or the shoulder, berm, barrow pit or right-of-way of any public highway (the entire width between the boundary lines of every publicly maintained way when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel, in the State of Montana, as per Montana law).

Two-way Communication

Two-way electronic communication (radios, cell phones, text messages, etc.) may not be used to:

- hunt game animals or upland game birds, migratory birds or furbearers as defined in Montana law ("Hunt" means to "pursue, shoot, wound, kill, chase, lure, possess or capture."); OR
- avoid game checking stations or FWP enforcement personnel; or
- to facilitate illegal activity.

The rule does not prohibit the possession or use of two-way communication for safety or other legitimate purposes.

Youth

In order to carry or use a firearm for any reason, a youth under 14 years of age must be accompanied by a person having charge or custody of the child, or be under the supervision of a qualified firearms safety instructor or an adult 18 years of age or older who has been authorized by the youth's parent or guardian, as per Montana law.

General Regulations

It is illegal to:

- "Party" hunt. Each hunter must shoot and tag his/her own animal.
- Loan or transfer a license to another person or use a license issued to another person.
- Carry or have physical control over a valid and unused hunting license or permit issued to another person while in any location where the species to be hunted occurs. Exception: a person may carry or have control over a license or permit issued to that person's spouse or any minor when the spouse or minor is hunting with that person.
- Alter a license or permit for any reason.
- Post, place signs or mark state or federal land other than that done by a state or federal land agency.
- Interfere/hinder with the lawful taking of a game animal.

Antler/Horn/Skull Possession

Individuals may possess, transport, sell, or purchase naturally shed antlers, or the antlers with a skull or portion of a skull attached from a game animal that has died from natural causes and that has not been illegally or accidentally killed. Road-killed animals have not died from natural causes. **It is illegal to possess a bighorn sheep head/horn picked up in the wild.**

Check Stations

All hunters and anglers are required by law to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from hunting and fishing areas, even if they have no game or fish to be checked.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

- CWD has not been detected in free-ranging deer, elk, or moose in Montana.
- As of March, 2012 and because of concerns about the introduction of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), the following states and provinces have instituted regulations prohibiting the import of certain deer, elk, or moose carcass parts: the states of Alaska, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine,

Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming, and the provinces of Manitoba and Ontario.

- Questions concerning carcass transport may be directed to FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452 or to your home state's wildlife division.

Furbearer Traps

- It is illegal to disturb traps or trapped animals. Traps and trapped animals are the property of the trap owner.
- Hunters may not shoot trapped animals.

Hunter Orange Requirement

- **Firearm Hunters** – Any person hunting or accompanying a hunter as an outfitter or guide must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) material above the waist, visible at all times.
- **Archery Hunters** – A licensed bowhunter pursuing black bear during the Archery Only Season or in an archery only (ArchEquip Only) hunting district is not required to meet the hunter orange requirement, even if there is a concurrent firearm season in that hunting district or portion of district. However, bowhunters hunting during any portion of the general (firearm) season for black bear must always wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) above the waist, visible at all times.

Hunting Hours

Authorized hunting hours for the taking of big game animals begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. See official sunrise-sunset tables in these regulations.

Inspection of Wildlife

Wildlife taken must be shown to FWP enforcement for inspection when requested.

Kill Site Verification

As a condition of hunting in Montana, if requested to do so by an FWP warden, you are required to return to the kill site.

License and Permit Possession

- Licenses and permits must be carried on your person at all times while in the field hunting.
- Licenses and permits must be produced if requested by FWP Enforcement personnel.

Limits and Seasons

- A hunter may legally harvest/take one black bear per license year.
- It is illegal to harvest/take black bear cubs. Cubs are defined as bears less than one year old. It is illegal to harvest/take a female black bear with young.
- All Bear Management Units (BMUs) listed shall be open to hunting of black bear of either sex.

Littering

A person convicted of littering while hunting, fishing, trapping or camping may lose his or her license and privileges to hunt, fish, trap, or camp within Montana for a period of one year.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV)

- Examples of an OHV include but are not limited to: motorcycles, quadricycles (also known as 4-wheelers), dune buggies, amphibious vehicles, air cushion vehicles, and any other means of land transportation deriving motive power from any source other than muscle or wind.
- In order to operate an OHV on public lands, the OHV must have a valid/current registration and display an OHV decal.
- Nonresidents must register their OHV in their home state or purchase a temporary Off-Highway Vehicle Use permit from Montana FWP. The permit is \$5 and expires on December 31 of the year issued.
- OHV permits may be purchased from some FWP License Providers and some Vendors (such as a private OHV dealership), or online at: <https://app.mt.gov/als/index/index.html>

Outfitters and Guides

It is illegal to hire an outfitter or guide not licensed by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry. For information, call 406-841-2373.

Possession and Sale of Wildlife Parts

- It is illegal to sell or purchase any part of a black bear except as allowed by the laws of Montana.
- The sale or purchase of hides, heads or mounts of lawfully killed black bear is legal.
- The penalty for the illegal sale may be a fine up to \$50,000 and/or imprisonment in the state prison for a term of five years.

Predators and Nongame Hunting

Predators and nongame species are unprotected by federal and/or state law or regulation and can be hunted in Montana year-round without a license by both resident and nonresident hunters. A conservation license, or a state school trust lands recreational use license is required to hunt predators and nongame species on state school trust lands. Permission must be obtained to hunt predators and nongame species on private land.

- **Predators** are classified as coyote, weasel, (striped) skunk, and civet cat (spotted skunk).
- **Nongame species** are defined as any wild animal not otherwise legally classified by statute or regulation in Montana. Examples include badger, raccoon, red fox, hares, rabbits, ground squirrels, marmots, tree squirrels, porcupines, and prairie dogs.
- **Furbearers** are protected game species that may only be taken by residents with a valid trapping license during prescribed open seasons. State classified furbearers include beaver, otter, muskrat, mink, marten, fisher, wolverine, bobcat, lynx, and swift fox.

Recorded Animal Sounds

It is illegal to use any recorded or electrically amplified bird or animal calls or sounds or imitations of bird or animal calls or sounds to assist in the hunting, taking, killing or capturing of any wildlife except predatory animals as per Montana law.

Restitution for Illegally Taken Wildlife

Under Montana law, a person convicted, or who was charged and forfeited bond or bail, of illegally killing, taking, or possessing game animals shall reimburse the state. The law sets the amount of restitution for a trophy animal under Montana law as:

Bighorn Sheep	\$30,000
Elk	\$8,000
Antlered Deer	\$8,000
Moose	\$6,000
Mountain Goat	\$6,000
Antelope	\$2,000
Grizzly Bear*	\$8,000
*no authorized hunting season	

- The law specifically outlines minimum standards for a trophy under this regulation, but authorizes the FWP Commission to adopt more specific criteria.
- For the purpose of assessing restitution for illegally taken trophy wildlife under Montana law, the following are considered "trophy" animals:
 - **Antelope:**
 - With at least one horn greater than 14 inches in length, as measured along the outside curve from base to tip.
 - **Elk:**
 - Must meet all three criteria:
 - 1) At least six points on one antler;
 - 2) A main beam length on each antler of at least 43 inches; and
 - 3) An inside spread of at least 36 inches.
- OR
 - Any elk with at least one six-point antler and having a gross/green Boone & Crockett score of 320 points or greater.
- **Mule Deer:**
 - Must meet all three criteria:
 - 1) At least four points on one antler (excluding brow tine),
 - 2) A main beam length on each side of at least 21 inches, and
 - 3) A greatest inside spread across the main beams of at least 20 inches.
- OR
 - Any mule deer with at least one four-point antler and having a gross/green Boone & Crockett score of 160 points or greater.
- **White-tailed Deer:**
 - Must meet all three criteria:
 - 1) At least four points on one antler (excluding brow tine),
 - 2) A main beam length on each side of at least 20 inches, and
 - 3) A greatest inside spread across the main beams of at least 16 inches.
- OR
 - Any white-tailed deer with at least one four-point antler and having a gross/green Boone & Crockett score of 140 points or greater.

A "point" as defined in these regulations is at least four inches long for elk and at least one inch long for deer, measured from base to tip. Boone & Crockett (B&C) measuring procedures or standards are used for criteria measurement. The official measurements for the purpose of this regulation are those that are taken at the time of confiscation or seizure of the trophy. Any B&C measurements will be considered final when taken by an official B&C scorer, regardless of drying time. If the skullcap of antlers or horns is broken in such a manner to render an official B&C score invalid, three official B&C scorers will estimate a score. The three scores will be averaged and the average score used to determine trophy status in accordance with Montana law.

Simulated Wildlife

It is illegal to discharge a firearm or other hunting implement at a simulated wildlife decoy in violation of any state statute, Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) or FWP commission rule regulating the hunting of the wildlife being simulated.

Transport of Wildlife

- An individual other than the license holder may transport properly tagged animals that comply with the "Evidence of Sex Requirements" and that were lawfully taken by the license holder. If you have specific questions please contact FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452.
- All shippers of fish, game or nongame birds, game animals, fur-bearing animals, the skins of fur-bearing animals or predatory animals, or parts thereof are required to label all packages offered for shipment by parcel post or common carrier (airlines, UPS, U.S. Postal Service, etc.). The label must be securely attached to the address of the package and shall plainly indicate the names and addresses of the consignor and consignee and the complete contents of the package. It is a violation of the Federal Lacey Act to transport an illegally taken game animal across state boundaries.
- It is illegal to ship, possess, or take out of state illegally killed game, game-birds, and/or furbearers. If you are transporting lawfully taken wildlife (including parts and/or products of live or dead animals) between Montana and Canada or between the United States and any foreign country, whether for commercial or noncommercial purposes, you must complete a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Declaration Form 3-177. Form 3-177 is available at all United States customs ports and on the USFWS website at www.fws.gov. For further information contact the USFWS Wildlife Inspector at 406-335-4350.
- Questions concerning carcass transport may be directed to FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452 or to your home state's wildlife division.
- It is unlawful to transport into Montana the whole carcass or certain carcass parts of white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk from states or provinces with documented occurrences of CWD in wild populations or on private game farms. Those states and provinces currently include Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.
- Only the following carcass parts may be transported into Montana from those states:
 - Meat that is cut and wrapped.
 - Quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached.
 - Meat that has been boned out.
 - Hides with no heads attached.
 - Clean (no meat or tissue attached) skull plates with antlers attached.
 - Antlers with no meat or tissue attached.
 - Upper canine teeth, also known as "buglers" or "whistlers" or "ivories".
 - Finished head, partial body or whole body mounts already prepared by a taxidermist.
- Keep in mind that "Evidence of Sex Requirements" must always be met when transporting any of these parts back into Montana.

Areas Closed or Limited to Hunting Methods for Big Game

Bear Creek WMA: Refer to FS maps.

Brinkman Game Preserve: The S1/2 Section 7, and E1/2, NE1/4 Section 7, and S1/2 Section 8, and NW 1/4 Section 8, S1/2 Section 9, S1/2 and E1/2, NE 1/4 Section 10. All of sections 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 35, 36; all in T29N, R7E, M.P.M. Liberty County.

Canyon Ferry Wildlife Management Area: Closed to hunting of big game except as designated under hunting regulations. Section 28 and 33, and W 1/2 of W 1/2 Section 34, T8N, R2E, Sections 4, 8, W1/2 and W1/2 of the E1/2 Section 9, NW1/4 Section 16, Sections 17, 18, 19, 20 and N1/2 Section 30, T7N, R2E, E1/2 of E1/2 Section 11, Section 12, E1/2 of NW1/4 and E1/2 Section 13 and E1/2 of E1/2 Section 24, T7N, R1E.

East Ovando Archery-only Area: Those portions of Powell County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 200 with the North Fork of the Blackfoot River, then southwest along said river to the Ovando-Helmville Road, then northwest along said Road to Ovando and State Route 200, then easterly along said Route to the North Fork of the Blackfoot River, the point of beginning.

Ennis Airport Weapons Restriction Area: Ennis Airport WRA Boundary Description: Beginning at intersection of Airport Rd and Hwy 287, east on Airport Rd, then continuing east along south boundary of section 32 to the USFS boundary, then north to north boundary of section 29, then west on north boundaries of sections 29 and 30, then south on west boundary of section 30, then west on north boundary of section 36 to Hwy 287, then south along Hwy 287 to point of beginning.

Flathead HD 170 Weapons Restriction Area: Area is restricted to archery, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader, or crossbow only. That portion of Flathead County lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 35 and State Route 206, then northerly along State Route 206 to US Highway 2, then westerly along said highway onto State Route 40 to US Highway 93, then south on said Highway to Rocky Cliff Drive, then easterly to Demersville Road, then northerly along said road to Foy's Bend Lane, then easterly along said road onto Lower Valley Road to the Bonneville Power Administration powerline at Foy's Bend, then northerly along said powerline across the Flathead River to the easterly shore, then up the most easterly shore of said river to State Route 35 (Old Highway 2 bridge), then easterly along said route to its junction with State Route 206, the point of the beginning.

Freezout Lake Wildlife Management Area, Teton County: As posted.

Gallatin Special Management Area (Bacon Rind and Buffalo Horn Units): Bacon Rind: Those portions of Madison and Gallatin Counties lying the following boundary description: Beginning at the confluence of Buffalo Horn Creek and the Gallatin River, then up said river to Snow Flake Springs and the toe of Snow Flake Ridge, then southerly along said ridge and the Sage Creek-Monument Creek Divide, then along Sage Creek-Snowslide Creek Divide and the Sage Creek-Bacon Rind Divide in the Gallatin Madison Rivers Divide at Redstreak Peak, then southeasterly along said divide to the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then northerly along said boundary to its northwestern most intersection with the Gallatin River, then down said river to the point of beginning.

Buffalo Horn: Those portions of Gallatin County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the intersection of Highway 191 and the north boundary of Yellowstone National Park, then in a northerly direction along said boundary to USFS trail 57 at Dailey Pass, then in a northwesterly direction along said trail to the headwaters of the South Fork of Buffalo Horn, then down said creek to a posted line that goes along the south side of Cow Flats to its intersection with Buffalo Horn Creek, then down said creek to the Gallatin River, then up said river to Snowflake Springs and the toe of Snowflake Ridge to its intersection with USFS Trail 151, then southeasterly along said trail to Lodgepole Creek-Monument Creek Divide, then easterly along said divide to Yellowstone National Park boundary, then north along said boundary to the point of beginning.

Gates of the Mountains Game Preserve: Beginning in Section 2, T12N, R3W at the southeast corner of Upper Holter Lake, then proceeding westerly along the northern shoreline of Upper Holter Lake in the Gates of the Mountains area located in Lewis and Clark County, then northerly along Stoney Point Beacon Road, then northerly along the powerline to said beacon, then along Bulldozer Road to the point of the ridge in Section 23, T13 N, R3W, then northerly to the Missouri River, then easterly across said river and lake to the USFS boundary to the wilderness boundary, then south along wilderness boundary to the southeast corner of Section 1, T12N, R3W, then west back to Upper Holter Lake, the point of beginning. Intending hereby to include in said game preserve all the territory adjacent of the Gates of the Mountains area, shall be called and known as the Gates of the Mountains Game Preserve.

Grant Kohrs Ranch near Deer Lodge: Closed to all hunting.

Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir: The Bureau of Reclamation Regulating Reservoir located in Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 16 and 17, T10N, R2W in Lewis and Clark County of the Helena Valley as posted. (This area will be open to hunting until the opening of the waterfowl season, then it will be closed to all hunting.)

Kuhns Wildlife Management Area: Legal description and map available from FWP Region 1, Kalispell office 406-752-5501.

Lake Bowdoin Migratory Waterfowl Refuge: Closed to hunting of big game.

Lake Helena Wildlife Management Area: Closed to all big game hunting except as designated under hunting regulations. Portions of the north half of Section 22 Township 11 North, Range 3 West.

Lee Metcalf national Wildlife Refuge: Legal description, map and regulations available from the Lee Metcalf Refuge, 406-777-5552.

Libby Big Game Archery Only Hunting Area: That Portion of Lincoln County lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 2 and Port Blvd. (the old Stimpson mill site entrance) on the south edge of Libby, then heading east on Port Blvd. to the Champion Haul Road, across Libby Creek on said road to National Forest Road -4813, then southerly on Road -4813 to National Forest Road -533, the Swede Mountain Road, then southerly along said road to the Farm-To-Market Road, then northerly along the Farm-to-Market Road to U.S. Highway 2, then northerly along U.S. Highway 2 to Port Blvd., the point of beginning.

Lincoln Closed Area: Closed to all big game hunting. Section 24, T14N, R9W, shall be closed to big game hunting. This generally comprises the area around the town of Lincoln.

Lost Trail NWR: Closed to hunting of black bear, lion, moose or wolf.

McLean Game Preserve: SW1/4, S1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4 of Section 5, T28N, R3W; S1/2, S1/2NE1/4, W1/2NW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4 of Section 6, T28N, R3W; N1/2N1/2 of Section 7, T28N, R3W; NW1/4NW1/4 of Section 8, T28N, R3W; N1/2 of Section 1, T28N, R4W, Pondera County.

Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge: Portions open to big game hunting.

Milk River Wildlife Management Area: Hunting by archery, shotgun, traditional handgun or muzzleloader only as posted and as described under current regulations.

Prickly Pear Valley Weapons Restriction Area: Those portions of Lewis and Clark and Jefferson Counties lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at the north end of the split median of Interstate 15, on the north boundary of Section 31, T12N, R3W, then southerly along Interstate 15 for approximately two miles to the north boundary of Section 5, T11N, R3W, then east along the north boundary of Sections 5 and 4 to Collins Drive, then south along Collins Drive to its junction with Snowdrift Road, then easterly along Snowdrift Road until Snowdrift Road becomes Mountain Meadows Road, then easterly along Mountain Meadows Road to a junction with Countryside Road, then southeasterly along Countryside Road to Hauser Lake, then southerly along the western shore of said lake and across the entrance of the Causeway Arm, then southerly along the south shore of the Causeway Arm to the Causeway and Lake Helena Drive, then southerly along said drive to US Highway 12-287, then westerly along US Highway 12-287 to Route 518 at East Helena, then southerly along said route to the junction with Interstate 15, then across Interstate 15 to Montana City and the Jackson Creek Road, then westerly along the Jackson Creek Road to its junction with the Clark Gulch Road, then west along said route to its junction with the Holmes Gulch Road then westerly along said route to the national forest boundary, then northerly along the national forest boundary along the west edge of Sections 7 and 6, T9N, R3W, then west along the south boundary of Section 36, then north along the west boundary of Section 36, then west along the south boundary of Section 26, then north along the west boundary of Section 26 to LeGrande Cannon Boulevard, then in a westerly and northerly direction along LeGrande Cannon Boulevard to US Highway 12, then across US Highway 12 onto County Route 602 (also known as Williams Street and then the Birdseye Road), then northerly along said route to State Highway 279, then easterly along State Highway 279 to its junction with Lone Mountain Road, then northerly along said road for two miles to the junction with Woodland Hills Road, then east on said road to Green Meadow Road, then north on said road to the southwest corner of Section 36, then east along the south boundary of Section 36, then north along the east boundary of Section 36, then east along the north boundary of Section 31 to its intersection with Interstate 15, the point of beginning.

Rookery Wildlife Management Area (as posted): Hunting by archery, shotgun, traditional handgun or muzzleloader only as posted and as described under current regulations.

Seeley Lake Game Preserve: Closed to all hunting. That portion of Missoula County lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at a point where US Forest Service land and private land meet next to Boy Scout Road in Section 20, T17N, R15W, then east on the boundary between US Forest Service and private land, then north on same boundary to the section line between Sections 17 and 20, then east on said section line and east on north line of Section 21, T17N, R15W to State Route 83, then south on State Route 83 to Riverview Drive in Section 3, T16N, R15W, then west on Riverview Drive to Snowmass Drive in Section 9, T16N, R15W, then north on Snowmass Drive to section line between Sections 4 and 5, T16N, R15W, then north on said section line to Clearwater River, then north along west shore of Clearwater River to Boy Scout Road in Section 33, T17N, R15W, then west and north on said road to where USFS land and private land meet next to Boy Scout Road in Section 20, T17N, R15W, the point of beginning.

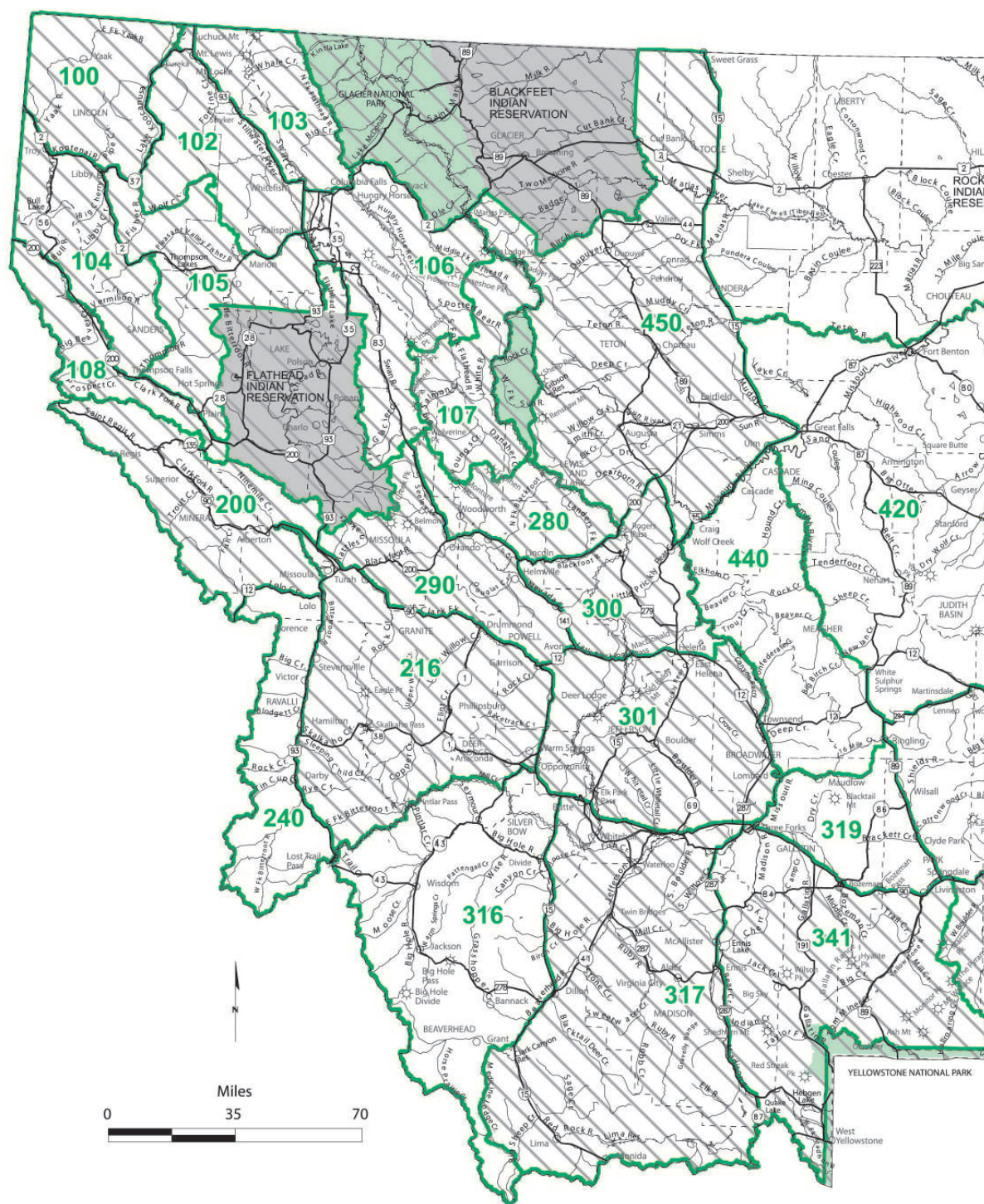
Sun River Game Preserve: Beginning at a point on the crest of the Continental Divide of the Rocky Mountains, due south of the head or source of the South Fork of the Sun River, in what will be, when surveyed, Section 8, T18N of R10W, Montana meridian, then due north from the crest of the Continental Divide to the head of the south fork of the Sun River, then northerly along the east bank of the South Fork of the Sun River (the eastern boundary of the Sun River Game Preserve) to its confluence with the North Fork of the Sun River, then northerly along the east bank of the North Fork of the Sun River (the eastern boundary of the Sun River Game Preserve) to its head or source, then due north to the crest of the Continental Divide of the Rocky Mountains, then along said crest southwesterly and southerly (the western boundary of the Sun River Game Preserve) to the place of beginning. Intending hereby to include in said game preserve all that territory lying between the South Fork of the Sun River and the North Fork of the Sun River on the east and the Continental Divide of the Rocky Mountains on the west.

Teton-Spring Creek Cooperative Hunting Area (TSCA), Teton County: All in T24N, R5W legally described as: Sections 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, and W1/2 of Section 13.

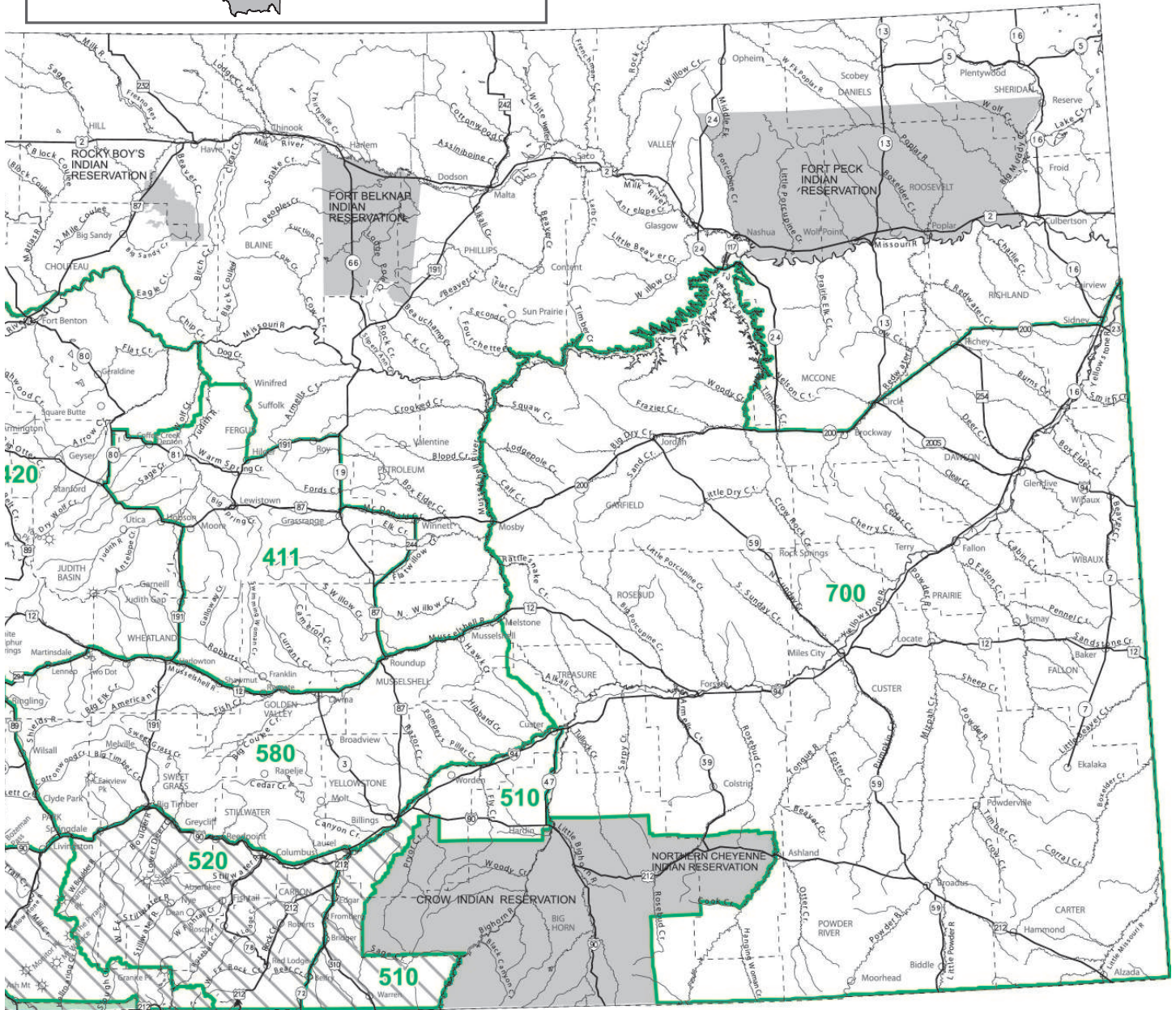
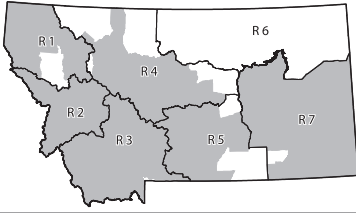
Townsend Weapon Restriction Area: Beginning at the intersection of US Highway 12 and Route 284 then northerly along said route to its intersection with Riley Road, then west along said road to the Canyon Ferry Wildlife Management Area boundary fence as signed, then northerly and westerly along said boundary fence to the end of said boundary fence in Section 28, T8N, R2E, near Canyon Ferry Reservoir, then westerly across said reservoir to Hahn Road, then westerly along said road to US Highway 287, then south along said highway to its intersection with the Kimber Gulch Road, then westerly along said road to its intersection with the railroad tracks, then southerly along said railroad tracks to their intersection with Springville Lane, then westerly and southerly along said lane to its intersection with the Indian Creek Road, then southerly along the west boundary of Sections 25 and 36 in T7N, R1E to the SW corner of Section 36, then easterly along the southern boundary of Section 36 and easterly along the southern boundary of Section 31 in T7N, R2E to its intersection with US Highway 287, then southeasterly along said highway to its intersection with Lower Deep Creek Road, then easterly along said road to its intersection with Jack Farm Road, then northwesterly along said road to its intersection with Cemetery Road, then east and north along said road to its intersection with US Highway 12, then east along said highway to its intersection with Route 284, the point of beginning.

Black Bear Management Units

This map is only intended as a guide. Please refer to the legal descriptions in this document for actual boundaries.



Reference map shows overall bear management units' relative to FWP Regional boundaries within the State of Montana



TONNE NATIONAL PARK



Closed to Hunting for Big Game



Areas not open to Black Bear hunting with a State of Montana license



General Distribution of Grizzly Bears in Montana
Grizzly Bears may be found in areas outside of this general distribution area.

Mandatory Reporting Requirements

Within five (5) days of harvesting a black bear (or within five days of arriving at a trailhead in backcountry areas) the successful hunter must present to a Montana FWP official the complete bear hide (with proof of sex remaining naturally attached) and skull for the purpose of inspection, tagging and removal of a tooth (for aging). The FWP hide tag affixed during inspection must thereafter remain attached to the hide until tanned.

Harvest Reporting1-877-FWP-WILD or 1-877-397-9453
OR.....406-444-0356

NOTE: There is a **mandatory** 48 hour reporting requirement for black bear hunting in Bear Management Units (BMUs) 510, 520 and 700.

Black Bear Archery Only Season

- Archery Only Season – September 7 - September 14, 2013
- In Bear Management Units (BMUs) with a quota, black bear harvest during the Archery Only Season may not exceed 20 percent of the BMU's total quota OR one black bear in those BMUs with a total harvest of less than five black bears.

Black Bear Management Unit Regulations

--- BMU 100 Purcell Mountains ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 102 North Salish Mountains ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 103 Whitefish Mountains ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 104 Cabinet Mountains ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 105 South Salish Mountains ---

Libby Big Game Archery Only Hunting Area restricted to ArchEquip Only. See Area Closed or Limited to Hunting Methods for Big Game.

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 106 Mission-Swan-Flathead Ranges ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 107 Bob Marshall Wilderness ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 108 Lower Clark Fork ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 200 Middle Clark Fork ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 216 Sapphire-Flint Creek ---

- Apr 15 - Jun 15 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 240 West Bitterroot ---

- Apr 15 - Jun 15 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 280 Upper Blackfoot ---

- Apr 15 - Jun 15 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear. Except season closes Nov 10 in deer/elk HD 282 portion of BMU 280.

--- BMU 290 Lower Blackfoot-Garnet Range ---

- Apr 15 - Jun 15 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 300 Helena-North ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 301 Helena-South ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 316 Big Hole ---

- Apr 15 - Jun 15 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 317 Ruby-Centennial ---

- Apr 15 - Jun 15 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 319 Bridger Mountains ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 341 Madison-Yellowstone-Gallatin ---

Gallatin Special Management Area - this buffer zone adjacent to Yellowstone Natl Park is closed to all hunting of black bear.

- Apr 15 - Jun 15 – Either-sex Black Bear. Deckard Flats - Eagle Creek portion of BMU 341 as posted, subject to closure of all hunting on 24 hour notice.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear. Deckard Flats - Eagle Creek portion of BMU 341 as posted, subject to closure of all hunting on 24 hour notice.

--- BMU 411 Snowies Complex ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

-- BMU 420 Little Belts/Castle/Highwoods Mountains --

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 440 Big Belt Mountains ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 450 Rocky Mountain East Front ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 510 Pryor Mountain ---

Any person harvesting a black bear during the Spring or Fall seasons in this BMU must personally call the Harvest Reporting line at 1-877-FWP-WILD (397-9453) within 48 hours of the kill.

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear. Total harvest quota = 5. Female subquota = 2.*
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season. Archery only quota not more than 20% of Fall harvest subquota.*
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear. Female subquota = 2.*

*When the harvest quota or subquota is reached or approached, the season for that area will close upon 48 hours notice, but no later than the last date of season shown in these regulations.

For Quota Status, call 1-800-385-7826.

--- BMU 520 Beartooth Face ---

Any person harvesting a black bear during the Spring or Fall seasons in this BMU must personally call the Harvest Reporting line at 1-877-FWP-WILD (397-9453) within 48 hours of the kill.

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear. Female subquota = 12.*
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season. Archery only quota not more than 20% of Fall harvest subquota.*
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear. Female subquota = 10.*

*When the harvest quota or subquota is reached or approached, the season for that area will close upon 48 hours notice, but no later than the last date of season shown in these regulations.

For Quota Status, call 1-800-385-7826.

--- BMU 580 Crazy Mountain ---

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 700 Region 7 ---

Any person harvesting a black bear during the Spring or Fall seasons in this BMU must personally call the Harvest Reporting line at 1-877-FWP-WILD (397-9453) within 48 hours of the kill.

- Apr 15 - May 31 – Either-sex Black Bear. Harvest quota = 2.*
- Sept 07 - Sept 14 – Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season. Archery only quota not more than 20% of Fall harvest quota.*
- Sept 15 - Dec 01 – Either-sex Black Bear. Harvest quota = 8.*

*When the harvest quota or subquota is reached or approached, the season for that area will close upon 48 hours notice, but no later than the last date of the season shown in these regulations.

For Quota Status, call 1-800-385-7826.



Enough is Enough ...

Turn In Poachers by calling 1-800-TIP-MONT (1-800-847-6668)

Carry Bear Pepper Spray and Know How To Use It!

- Hunting puts you at risk of encountering a bear. Calling game and using scents may attract bears.
- If you hunt alone, let someone know about your plans. If you feel uneasy hunting alone, hunt with a partner.
- Pay attention to fresh bear sign. Communicate with others and let them know when bears have been seen and/or fresh sign observed.
- Some bears may move in the direction of a gunshot because they learned to associate the sound with a gut pile or carcass.
- The golden rule is "get the game animal out of the area as quickly as possible." The longer a carcass remains lying on the ground, hung up in camp, or stored in the back of a truck, the more likely it will be discovered by a bear.
- Carcasses left for a period of time require special care. Carry a colored, lightweight tarp or space blanket. Put the guts on the tarp and drag them a few hundred feet away from the carcass.
- Locate an observation point 200 yards (if possible) away from the carcass with a clear line of sight.
 - When returning, approach the observation point carefully. Yell or whistle repeatedly. With binoculars study the scene from the observation point and scan the area for the carcass and any movement. If a bear is at the site and refuses to leave or the meat has been covered up with debris by a bear, report the incident to FWP.
 - Do not attempt to frighten away or haze a bear, especially a grizzly.
- Bears are opportunists and change their behavior to take advantage of new food sources. Always assume that grizzlies are in the area and make sure your camps, cabins, and homes are bear proof, and that bear attractants are unavailable or contained.
- Mentally rehearse a worst-case scenario with encountering a bear. "If the mind has never been there before, the body does not know how to respond." The following is a list of recommended responses to minimize the likelihood of attack or chances of human injury:
 - Make certain you have bear pepper spray at the ready and know how to use it. In sudden grizzly encounters, bear pepper spray has proven effective. Bears sprayed in the face at close range often stop attacking.
 - Always maintain a safe distance from bears.
 - Stay calm.
 - Immediately pick up small children and stay in a group.
 - Behave in a non-threatening manner.
 - Speak softly.
 - Do NOT make eye contact.
 - Throw a backpack or other object (like a hat or gloves) on the ground as you move away to distract the animal's attention.
 - Slowly back away, if possible. Keep a distance of at least 100 yards.
 - Do not run from a bear. Running may trigger a natural predator-prey attack response and a grizzly can easily outrun the world's fastest human.
 - Don't climb a tree unless you are sure you can get at least 10' from the ground before the bear reaches you. Many experts recommend against climbing trees in most situations.
- Report encounters with Grizzly Bears to FWP at 1-800-TIP-MONT, U.S. Forest Service, or one of the nearest FWP bear management specialists listed below:
 - Mike Madel, Choteau, MT 406-466-5100
 - Tim Manley, Kalispell, MT 406-892-0802
 - Kevin Frey, Bozeman, MT 406-994-3553
 - James Jonkel, Missoula, MT 406-542-5508
 - In an actual emergency, phone 9-1-1. Seeing a grizzly is not necessarily a reportable encounter or an emergency. Report encounters where the bear displayed aggressive or defensive behavior toward people, livestock or pets.

Black Bear Management Unit Legal Descriptions

100 Purcell Mountains: That portion of Lincoln County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning where the Kootenai River meets the Idaho border, then northerly along said border to the Canadian border, then easterly along said border to the east shore of Lake Koocanusa, then southerly along said shore to Libby Dam and the east shore of the Kootenai River, then southerly and westerly along said shore of the Kootenai River to the Idaho border, the point of beginning.

102 North Salish Mountains: Those portions of Lincoln and Flathead Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning where the east shore of Lake Koocanusa meets the Canadian border, then southerly along said shore to Libby Dam and Kootenai River, then southerly along the east shore of the Kootenai River to USFS Road 763 (Fisher River Road), then southerly along said road to USFS Road 36 (Wolf Creek Road), then easterly and northerly along said road to USFS Road 113 (Brush Creek Divide Road), then easterly along said road to the divide between Brush Creek and Sheppard Creek, then southerly along said divide through Tepee Mtn., Sanders Mtn., Grubb Mtn., and continuing along said divide to Herrig Creek Road, then southerly and easterly along said road to USFS Road 543 (Little Bitterroot Lake Road), then southerly along said road to US Highway 2, then easterly along said highway to US Highway 93, then northerly along said highway to the Canadian border, then westerly along said border to the east shore of Lake Koocanusa, the point of beginning.

103 Whitefish Mountains: Those portions of Lincoln and Flathead Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning where US Highway 93 meets the Canadian border, then southerly along said highway to State Route 40, then easterly along said route and US Highway 2 to the Flathead River, then northerly along said river to the mouth of the North Fork of the Flathead River, then northerly along said river to the Canadian border, then westerly along said border to US Highway 93, the point of beginning.

104 Cabinet Mountains: Those portions of Lincoln and Sanders Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning where the Kootenai River meets the Idaho border, then easterly along the Kootenai River to Highway 37 at Libby, then south on said highway to US Highway 2, then southerly along said highway to USFS Road 4422 (Elk Creek Road), then southerly along said road to USFS Road 516 (Fishtrap Road), then southerly along said road to the Thompson River, then southerly and westerly along said river to State Route 200, then northwesterly along said route to the Idaho border, then north along the said border to the Kootenai River, the point of beginning.

105 South Salish Mountains: Those portions of Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders and Lake Counties lying within the following described boundaries: Beginning where Highway 37 crosses the Kootenai River at Libby, then easterly up the Kootenai River to USFS Road 763 (Fisher River Road), then southerly along said road to USFS Road 36 (Wolf Creek Road), then easterly and northerly along said road to USFS Road 113 (Brush Creek Divide Road), then easterly along said road to the divide between Brush Creek and Sheppard Creek, then southerly along said divide through Tepee Mtn., Sanders Mtn., Grubb Mtn., and continuing along said divide to the Herrig Creek Road, then southerly and easterly along said road to USFS Road 543 (Little Bitterroot Lake Road), then southerly along said road to US Highway 2, then easterly along said highway to US Highway 93, then south along said highway to Somers Rest Area and north shore of Flathead Lake, then southerly along the west shore of Flathead Lake to the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary, then west and south along said boundary to State Route 200, then west along said route to the Clarks Fork River, then west along said route to the Thompson River, then northerly along said river to USFS Road 516 (Fishtrap Road), then northerly along said road to USFS Road 4422 (Elk Creek Road), then northerly along said road to US Highway 2, then northerly along said highway to Highway 37 at Libby, then north on said highway to the Kootenai River, the point of beginning.

NOTE: Libby Big Game Archery Only Hunting Area restricted to ArchEquip Only. See "Area Closed or Limited to Hunting Methods for Big Game" for legal description.

106 Mission-Swan-Flathead Ranges: Those portions of Lake, Flathead and Missoula Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Somers Rest Area and US Highway 93 on the northwest shore of Flathead Lake, then north along said highway to Highway 40, then east along said highway to the Flathead River, then northerly along said river to the Middle Fork of the Flathead River, then easterly up the said river to Bear Creek, then easterly up said creek to the Continental Divide at Marias Pass, then southerly along said divide to Big Lodge Mountain and USFS Trail 179 (Lodgepole Creek Trail), then down said trail to USFS Trail 154 (Morrison Creek Trail), then south on said trail to USFS Trail 155, then westerly along said trail to USFS Trail 81 (Miners Creek Trail), then southerly on said trail to USFS Trail 43 near Whitcomb Peak, then southeasterly on said trail to USFS Trail 83, then easterly along said trail to USFS Trail 89 (Silvertip Creek Trail), then southerly along said trail to Mid Mountain and USFS Trail 103, then down said trail to the mouth of Mid Creek and across the South Fork of the Flathead, up the main drainage to USFS

Trail 107 at the south side of Sarah Peak, then south on said trail to USFS Trail 226, then westerly on said trail to USFS Trail 218, then westerly along said trail to Inspiration Point, then south along the Swan Divide to the Clearwater-Swan Divide (Lolo National Forest boundary) at Wolverine Peak, then southwesterly along said divide to the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary, then northerly along said boundary to the east shore of Flathead Lake, then north and west along said shore to Somers Rest Area and US Highway 93, the point of beginning.

107 Bob Marshall Wilderness: Those portions of Flathead, Lewis and Clark, Missoula and Powell Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning on the Continental Divide at Big Lodge Mtn. and USFS Trail 179 (Lodgepole Creek Trail), then down said trail to USFS Trail 154 (Morrison Creek Trail), then south on said trail to USFS Trail 155, then westerly along said trail to USFS Trail 81 (Miner Creek Trail), then southerly on said trail to USFS Trail 43 near Whitcomb Peak, then southeasterly along said trail to USFS Trail 83, then easterly along said trail to USFS Trail 89 (Silvertip Creek Trail), then southerly along said trail to Mid Mountain and USFS Trail 103, then down said trail to the mouth of Mid Creek and across the South Fork of the Flathead, up the main drainage to USFS Trail 107 at the south side of Sarah Peak, then south on said trail to USFS Trail 226, then westerly on said trail to USFS Trail 218, then westerly along said trail to Inspiration Point, then south along the Swan Divide to Wolverine Peak and the Flathead-Lolo National Forest boundary, then south and east along said boundary to the Continental Divide at Triple Divide and Observation Point, then north along Continental Divide to Big Lodge Mountain, the point of beginning.

108 Lower Clark Fork: That portion of Sanders County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 200 and the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary (Section 6, R24W, T18N), then southerly along said boundary to the Sanders County line, then westerly along said line to the Clark Fork-Ninemile Divide, then westerly along said divide to USFS Trail 242, then northerly along said trail to the Cascade Campground along the Clark Fork River, then northwesterly up said river to USFS Trail 1714, then northerly along said trail to USFS Road 7592, then north and westerly along said road to USFS Trail 404, then westerly along said trail through Combest Peak to the Sanders-Mineral County line, then westerly along said line to the Montana-Idaho border, then continuing northwesterly along said border to State Route 200, then southeasterly along said route to the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary, the point of beginning.

200 Middle Clark Fork: Those portions of Mineral and Missoula Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Lolo and the junction of US Highway 93 and US Highway 12, then westerly along US Highway 12 to Lolo Pass and the Montana-Idaho border, then northwesterly along said border, crossing Interstate 90 at Lookout Pass and continuing along said border to the Mineral-Sanders County Line, then in an easterly and southerly direction along said county line (C-C Divide) to USFS Trail 404 near Combest Peak, then easterly on said trail to the Miller Creek Loop USFS Road 7592, then easterly along said road to its junction with USFS trail 1714, then southerly on said trail to Cascade Campground along the Clark Fork River, then south across said river along USFS Trail 242 to USFS Road 97, then easterly on said road to Ninemile-Siegel Creek Divide (Sanders-Mineral County Line), then northeasterly along said Pass to the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary, then southeasterly along said boundary to US Highway 93 near Evaro, then along said highway to Interstate 90, then westerly along said interstate to the first interstate bridge over the Clark Fork River, then easterly along said river to Harpers Bridge and County Road 30 (Big Flat Road), then southerly along said road to US Highway 93, then southerly along said highway to Lolo, the point of beginning.

216 Sapphire-Flint Creek: Those portions of Missoula, Ravalli, Granite, Powell and Deer Lodge counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Lolo, then north along US Highway 93 to its intersection with Blue Mountain Road, then northwesterly along said road to Big Flat Road, then northerly along said road to Harper's Bridge across the Clark Fork River, then northwesterly down the west bank of said river to the first Interstate 90 bridge west of the Ninemile Interchange, then southeasterly along Interstate 90 to its intersection with State Route 1 east of Anaconda, then west along said route to its junction with State Route 274 (Mill Creek Road), then in a southwesterly direction along said route to the Continental Divide, then southwesterly along said divide to the Montana-Idaho border, then westerly along said border to US Highway 93 at Lost Trail Pass, then north along said highway to Lolo, the point of beginning.

240 West Bitterroot: Those portions of Missoula and Ravalli Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Lolo, then south on US Highway 93 to the Montana-Idaho border at Lost Trail Pass, then in a southwesterly and northerly direction along the Montana-Idaho border to US Highway 12 at Lolo Pass, then easterly along said highway to Lolo, the point of beginning.

280 Upper Blackfoot: Those portions of Missoula, Powell and Lewis and Clark Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 83 and State Route 200 (Clearwater Junction), then in an easterly

direction along State Route 200 to the Continental Divide at Rogers Pass, then northwest along said divide to Triple Divide Peak and the Flathead-Blackfoot Divide, then westerly and northerly along said divide to Wolverine Peak and the Swan-Clearwater River Divide, then southwesterly along said divide to State Route 83, then south along said route to its junction with State Route 200 (Clearwater Junction), the point of beginning.

290 Lower Blackfoot-Garnet Range: Those portions of Missoula, Granite and Powell Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Missoula, then northwest along Interstate 90 to US Highway 93, then north along said highway to the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary near Evaro, then east and north along said boundary to the Swan-Clearwater River Divide and USFS Trail 308, then northeasterly along said trail and divide to State Route 83, then south along said route to its junction with State Route 200 at Clearwater Junction, then easterly along said route to its junction with State Route 141, then southeast along said route to its junction with US Highway 12 at Avon, then west along said highway to its junction with Interstate 90 at Garrison, then northwest along said interstate to Missoula, the point of beginning.

300 Helena-North: Those portions of Lewis and Clark and Powell Counties lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at the junction of US Highway 12 and Interstate 15 east of Helena, then easterly along US Highway 12 to State Route 284 (Canyon Ferry Road), then northeast along said road to Canyon Ferry Dam and the Missouri River, then northerly along the west bank of the Missouri River (west shore of Hauser and Holter Lakes) to Interstate 15, then south along said interstate to US Highway 287, then northerly along said highway to State Route 200, then southwesterly along said route to State Route 141, then southerly along said route to Avon and US Highway 12, then easterly along said highway to Interstate 15 east of Helena, the point of beginning.

301 Helena-South: Those portions of Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Silverbow, Powell and Broadwater Counties lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at the junction of US Highway 12 and Interstate 15 east of Helena, then easterly along US Highway 12 to State Route 284, then north along said route to Canyon Ferry Dam, then south along the east shore of Canyon Ferry Lake and the Missouri River to the bridge and US Highway 287 north of Townsend, then south along said highway to the bridge near Toston and the Missouri River, then south along the Missouri River to the Jefferson River, then southwest along the Jefferson River to the bridge near Three Forks and Interstate 90, then westerly along said interstate to Garrison and US Highway 12, then easterly along said highway to its junction with Interstate 15 east of Helena, the point of beginning.

316 Big Hole: Those portions of Silverbow, Deer Lodge, Beaverhead, and Madison Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Dillon, then southerly on Interstate 15 to its junction with State Route 324 at Clark Canyon Dam, then westerly along said route to its junction with Medicine Lodge-Big Sheep Road, then southerly along said road to the Nicholia Deadman Road (Forest Development Road 9511 and 9512), then southeasterly along said road to the Montana-Idaho border at Medicine Lodge Pass (Old Bannock Pass), then southerly and northwesterly along said border and the Continental Divide, to Lost Trail Pass (where the Beaverhead County line intersects the Montana-Idaho border), follow the Continental Divide northerly and northeasterly as it follows the Beaverhead and Deer Lodge County lines, then continue along Continental Divide to Mt. Evans and Grassy Mtn. to its intersection with Route 274, then northerly along said route to State Route 1, then easterly along said route to Interstate 90, then easterly along said interstate to Interstate 15, then southerly on said interstate to Dillon, the point of beginning.

317 Ruby-Centennial: Those portions of Silverbow, Beaverhead, Madison and Jefferson Counties lying within the following boundary: Beginning at the junction of Interstate 90 and Interstate 15 near Rocker (west of Butte), then southerly along said interstate to its junction with State Route 324 at Clark Canyon Dam, then westerly along said route to the Medicine Lodge-Big Sheep Road, then southerly along said road to its junction with the Nicholia-Deadman Road (Forest Development Road 9511 and 9512), then southerly and southeasterly along said road to the Montana-Idaho border at Medicine Lodge Pass (Old Bannock Pass), then northeasterly along said border to its junction with Route 87 at Reynolds Pass, then northerly along said route to its junction with US Highway 287, then northerly on said highway to its junction with Interstate 90 near Three Forks, then westerly along said interstate to its junction with Interstate 15, the point of beginning.

319 Bridger Mountains: Those portions of Gallatin, Park, and Meagher Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the intersection of Interstate 90 and the Jefferson River, by Three Forks, then northerly down the Jefferson River to the headwaters of the Missouri River, then northerly down said river to Sixteen Mile Creek, then easterly along Sixteen Mile Creek to its junction with the Dry Creek and Ringling-Maudlow Road at Maudlow, then easterly and northerly along the Ringling-Maudlow Road to Ringling, then southerly on US Highway 89 to its junction with Interstate 90, then westerly along said interstate to its intersection with the Jefferson River, the point of beginning.

341 Madison-Yellowstone-Gallatin: Those portions of Gallatin, Madison, Park, Carbon and Sweetgrass Counties lying within the following boundary: Beginning at the junction of the Montana-Wyoming border and the Custer-Gallatin National Forest boundary, southeast of Albino Lake, then northerly and westerly along said boundary to the Stillwater County Line, then west along said line to the Custer-Gallatin National Forest boundary near Timberline Mountains, then northerly along said boundary to the Slough Creek-Boulder River Divide, near Columbine Pass, then southwesterly along the Boulder River-Slough Creek Divide and northeasterly along the Boulder River-Buffalo Fork Divide and the Hellroaring Creek-Boulder River Divide, to the Hellroaring-Mill Creek Divide, near Crow Mountain, then northerly along the Mill Creek-Boulder River Divide to Mt. Cowen, then northerly along the Yellowstone River-West Boulder River Divide to Elephant Head Mountain, then northerly down Mission Creek to Interstate 90 east of Livingston, then westerly and northerly along said interstate to its intersection with US Highway 287 by Three Forks, then southerly along said highway to its intersection with Highway 87, then southerly along said highway to the Montana-Idaho border (Continental Divide), then easterly along said border to the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then northerly and easterly along said boundary to the Montana-Wyoming border west of Silver Gate, then easterly along said border to the Custer Gallatin National Forest Boundary, the point of beginning.

NOTE: See Gallatin Special Management Area in Areas Closed for boundary description.

411 Snowies Complex: Those portions of Judith Basin, Fergus, Petroleum, Musselshell, Golden Valley and Wheatland Counties lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at Stanford at the intersection of US Highways 80 and 87, then northerly along US Highway 80 to its intersection with US Highway 81, then easterly along US Highway 81 to Denton and approximately one mile further east to its junction with Bear Springs County Road, then north and east along said road, across the Judith River at the Anderson Bridge to Winifred and its intersection with Route 236, then south along said route to Hilger and its intersection with US Highway 191, the east along said highway to its intersection with Route 19 at Bohemian Corner, then south along said route to US Highway 87 near Grassrange, then east along said highway (State Route 200) to its intersection with Route 244 at Winnett, then southwest along said route to its intersection with US Highway 87, then south along said highway to its intersection with US Highway 12 at Roundup, then west along said highway to its intersection with US Highway 191 near Harlowton, then north along said highway to its intersection with US Highway 87 (State Route 200) at Ed-dies Corner, then west along said highway to Stanford and its intersection with US Highway 80, the point of beginning.

420 Little Belts/Castle/Highwoods Mountains: Those portions of Teton, Cascade, Judith Basin, Chouteau, Meagher, Wheatland and Fergus Counties lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at White Sulphur Springs, then northwest along State Route 360 (Fort Logan-Milligan Road) to its junction with the Smith River, then downstream (northerly) along the Smith River to Ulm, then at Ulm and its junction with Interstate 15 northeasterly along said Interstate thru Great Falls, continuing northerly along Interstate 15 to its intersection with the Teton River, then easterly along said River to its confluence with the Missouri River near Loma, then downstream (easterly) along said River to the mouth of the Judith River near the PN Bridge, then upstream (southerly) along said River to MT Route 547(Bear Springs Road at the Anderson Bridge), then southerly and westerly along said Route to Denton, then westerly along MT Highway 81 to its intersection with MT Highway 80, then southerly along said highway to Stanford and its intersection with US Highway 87, then easterly to its intersection with US Highway 191 at Eddie's Corner, then southerly along said highway to Harlowton and its junction with US Highway 12, then westerly along said Highway to its intersection with State Route 294 north of Martinsdale, then southwesterly along said Route to its intersection with US Highway 89 north of Ringling, then northerly along said Highway to its intersection with Route 360 at White Sulphur Springs, the point of beginning.

440 Big Belt Mountains: Those portions of Cascade, Lewis and Clark, Broadwater, Meagher and Gallatin Counties lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at Ulm and the junction of Interstate 15 and Route 330, then southerly along said route to the Smith River, then southerly up said river to Route 360 (Fort Logan - Milligan Road), then southerly along said route to White Sulphur Springs and US Highway 89, then southerly along said highway to Ringling, then southerly and westerly along the Ringling-Maudlow Road to its junction with the Dry Creek Road and Sixteen-Mile Creek at Maudlow, then westerly along said creek to the east bank of the Missouri River, then northerly down said bank of said river to US Highway 287 bridge near Toston, then north along US Highway 287 to the Missouri River bridge near Toston, then north along said highway to the Missouri River bridge north of Townsend, then north along the east bank of the Missouri River and east shore of Canyon Ferry Lake to Canyon Ferry Dam, then northerly along the west bank of the Missouri River (west shore of Hauser and Holter Lakes) to Interstate 15, then northeasterly along said interstate to Ulm, the point of beginning.

450 Rocky Mountain East Front: Those portions of Lewis and Clark, Teton, Pondera and Glacier Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 200 and the Continental Divide at Rogers Pass, then northerly along said divide to its junction with Glacier National Park Boundary at Summit (Marias Pass), then northeast along said boundary to the Blackfeet Indian Reservation boundary, then easterly and northerly along said boundary to the Canada border, then easterly along said border to Interstate 15, then southerly along Interstate 15 to State Route 287, then northerly along said Route to State Route 200 (Bowman's Corner), then westerly along said Route to Rogers Pass and the Continental Divide, the point of beginning.

NOTE: Sun River Preserve closed to black bear hunting.

510 Pryor Mountain: That portion of Big Horn, Carbon and Yellowstone Counties lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 72 and the Wyoming border, then northerly along said route to US Highway 310 then northerly along said route to the south bank of the Yellowstone River near Laurel, then easterly down the south bank of the Yellowstone River to the Custer-Melstone bridge, then south along the Custer-Melstone Road to Interstate 94, then east along said road to State Route 47, then south along said route to Interstate 90 near Hardin, then east along said road to the Crow Indian Reservation Boundary, then westerly, then southerly, then easterly along said boundary to the west shore of Yellowstone Reservoir (Bighorn Lake), then southerly along the west shore of said reservoir to the Montana-Wyoming state line, then west along said state line to State Route 72, the point of beginning.

520 Beartooth Face: Those portions of Park, Sweet Grass, Stillwater and Carbon Counties lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning on Interstate 90 at Big Timber, then east along Interstate 90 to Laurel, then southerly along US Highway 212 to its intersection with US Highway 310 at Rockvale, then southerly along said highway to its intersection with Route 72 about one mile south of Bridger, then southerly along Route 72 to the Montana-Wyoming border, then westerly along said border to the Custer-Gallatin National Forest boundary southeast of Albino Lake, then northerly and westerly along the said boundary to the Park-Stillwater County line then north and west along said line to the Custer-Gallatin National Forest Boundary near Timberline Mountain, then northerly along said boundary to the Slough Creek-Boulder River Divide near Columbine Pass, then southwesterly along said divide and northwesterly along the Boulder River-Buffalo Fork Divide through Boulder Pass, then northwest along the Hellroaring Creek-Boulder River Divide past Crow Mountain, then north and west along the Boulder-River-Mill Creek Divide to Mt. Cowan, then north along the Yellowstone River-West Boulder River Divide to Elephant Head Mountain, then north down Mission Creek to Interstate 90, then west along said interstate to Big Timber, the point of beginning.

580 Crazy Mountain: Those portions of Big Horn, Golden Valley, Meagher, Musselshell, Park, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland and Yellowstone Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of Interstate 90 and US Highway 89 east of Livingston, then northerly along US Highway 89 to State Route 294, then northeasterly along said route to its junction with US Highway 12, then easterly along said highway to Melstone, then southeast along the Melstone-Custer road to the Yellowstone River, then westerly along the south bank of said river to US Highway 212, then north on said highway to Interstate 90, then west along said interstate to US Highway 89, the point of beginning.

700 Region 7: Those portions of Big Horn, Carter, Custer, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Musselshell, Prairie, Powder River, Richland, Rosebud, Treasure, Yellowstone and Wibaux Counties lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at the Musselshell River Bridge near Mosby on State Route 200, then north down the Musselshell River to the Missouri River, then east and north down the Missouri River to the Fort Peck Powerhouse, then south along the east shore of the Fort Peck Reservoir to Big Dry Creek, then south up Big Dry Creek to Little Dry Creek, then up Little Dry Creek to State Route 200, then west on State Route 200 to Brockway, then northeasterly along said route through Sidney to the Montana-North Dakota border, then south along said border to its intersection with the Montana-South Dakota-Wyoming junction, then west along the Montana-Wyoming border to the east boundary of the Crow Reservation, then north along said boundary to the Northern Cheyenne Reservation boundary, then east along said boundary to the Tongue River, then north down said river to the northeast corner of the Northern Cheyenne Reservation boundary, then west along said boundary to State Route 47, then north on said route to its junction with Interstate 94, then west along said interstate to its junction with the Custer-Melstone Road at Custer, then north along said road to its junction with US Highway 12 at Melstone, then east on said highway to the Musselshell River, then north down said river to its intersection with State Route 200 near Mosby, the point of beginning.

Montana is Bear Country

Be Bear Aware!

Hunters must be able to tell the difference between a grizzly and a black bear because grizzly bears cannot be legally hunted in Montana.

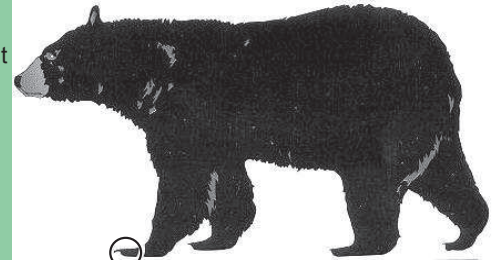
- Learn how to identify bears.
- Be absolutely sure of your target.
- If in doubt, don't shoot.

Look for a combination of characteristics

Tall pointed
ears

No shoulder hump

Straight
face
profile



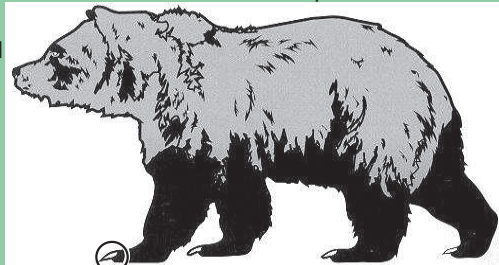
Short
claws

BLACK BEAR

Short rounded
ears

Shoulder hump

Dished
face
profile



Long
claws

GRIZZLY BEAR

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Celebrating Montana's Hunting Heritage

2013 Sunrise-Sunset Tables For Determining Hunting Hours

These tables, including adjustments for daylight savings time, are the official sunrise-sunset tables adopted by the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission for hunting in Montana. Authorized hunting hours for the taking of black bear begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. **(Do not use other sources.)**



ZONE 1

INCLUDES: Flathead, Granite, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties

Day	Apr		May		Jun		Sep		Oct		Nov	
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
01	7:15	8:06	6:20	8:47	5:45	9:23	6:56	8:15	7:35	7:15	8:19	6:20
02	7:13	8:07	6:19	8:48	5:45	9:24	6:57	8:13	7:37	7:13	8:20	6:18
03	7:11	8:08	6:17	8:49	5:44	9:25	6:59	8:11	7:38	7:11	8:22	6:17
04	7:09	8:10	6:16	8:51	5:44	9:26	7:00	8:09	7:39	7:09	8:23	6:15
05	7:07	8:11	6:14	8:52	5:43	9:26	7:01	8:07	7:41	7:07	8:25	6:14
06	7:05	8:13	6:13	8:53	5:43	9:27	7:02	8:05	7:42	7:05	8:26	6:12
07	7:03	8:14	6:11	8:55	5:42	9:28	7:04	8:03	7:43	7:03	8:28	6:11
08	7:01	8:15	6:10	8:56	5:42	9:28	7:05	8:01	7:45	7:01	8:29	6:10
09	6:59	8:17	6:08	8:57	5:42	9:29	7:06	7:59	7:46	6:59	8:31	6:08
10	6:57	8:18	6:07	8:58	5:42	9:30	7:08	7:57	7:47	6:58	8:32	6:07
11	6:55	8:19	6:06	9:00	5:41	9:30	7:09	7:55	7:49	6:56	8:34	6:06
12	6:53	8:21	6:04	9:01	5:41	9:31	7:10	7:53	7:50	6:54	8:35	6:05
13	6:52	8:22	6:03	9:02	5:41	9:31	7:12	7:51	7:52	6:52	8:37	6:04
14	6:50	8:24	6:02	9:03	5:41	9:32	7:13	7:49	7:53	6:50	8:38	6:03
15	6:48	8:25	6:01	9:05	5:41	9:32	7:14	7:47	7:54	6:48	8:39	6:01
16	6:46	8:26	6:00	9:06	5:41	9:33	7:15	7:45	7:56	6:46	8:41	6:00
17	6:44	8:28	5:58	9:07	5:41	9:33	7:17	7:43	7:57	6:45	8:42	5:59
18	6:42	8:29	5:57	9:08	5:41	9:33	7:18	7:41	7:59	6:43	8:44	5:58
19	6:41	8:30	5:56	9:09	5:41	9:34	7:19	7:39	8:00	6:41	8:45	5:57
20	6:39	8:32	5:55	9:11	5:41	9:34	7:21	7:37	8:01	6:39	8:47	5:57
21	6:37	8:33	5:54	9:12	5:42	9:34	7:22	7:35	8:03	6:38	8:48	5:56
22	6:35	8:34	5:53	9:13	5:42	9:34	7:23	7:33	8:04	6:36	8:49	5:55
23	6:34	8:36	5:52	9:14	5:42	9:34	7:25	7:31	8:06	6:34	8:51	5:54
24	6:32	8:37	5:51	9:15	5:42	9:34	7:26	7:29	8:07	6:32	8:52	5:53
25	6:30	8:39	5:50	9:16	5:43	9:35	7:27	7:27	8:09	6:31	8:53	5:53
26	6:28	8:40	5:50	9:17	5:43	9:35	7:29	7:25	8:10	6:29	8:55	5:52
27	6:27	8:41	5:49	9:18	5:44	9:34	7:30	7:23	8:12	6:27	8:56	5:51
28	6:25	8:43	5:48	9:19	5:44	9:34	7:31	7:21	8:13	6:26	8:57	5:51
29	6:23	8:44	5:47	9:20	5:45	9:34	7:33	7:19	8:14	6:24	8:58	5:50
30	6:22	8:45	5:47	9:21	5:45	9:34	7:34	7:17	8:16	6:23	8:00	5:50
31			5:46	9:22					8:17	6:21		

ZONE 3

INCLUDES: Big Horn, Blaine, Carbon, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland and Yellowstone Counties

Day	Apr		May		Jun		Sep		Oct		Nov	
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
01	6:56	7:48	6:02	8:29	5:26	9:06	6:37	7:57	7:17	6:57	8:01	6:01
02	6:54	7:49	6:00	8:30	5:26	9:06	6:39	7:55	7:18	6:55	8:03	5:59
03	6:52	7:50	5:58	8:32	5:25	9:07	6:40	7:53	7:20	6:53	8:04	5:58
04	6:50	7:52	5:57	8:33	5:25	9:08	6:41	7:51	7:21	6:51	8:05	5:57
05	6:48	7:53	5:55	8:34	5:24	9:09	6:43	7:49	7:22	6:49	8:07	5:55
06	6:46	7:54	5:54	8:36	5:24	9:10	6:44	7:47	7:24	6:47	8:08	5:54
07	6:44	7:56	5:52	8:37	5:23	9:10	6:45	7:45	7:25	6:45	8:10	5:52
08	6:43	7:57	5:51	8:38	5:23	9:11	6:47	7:43	7:27	6:43	8:11	5:51
09	6:41	7:59	5:50	8:39	5:23	9:12	6:48	7:41	7:28	6:41	8:13	5:50
10	6:39	8:00	5:48	8:41	5:22	9:12	6:49	7:39	7:29	6:39	8:14	5:48
11	6:37	8:01	5:47	8:42	5:22	9:13	6:51	7:37	7:31	6:37	8:16	5:47
12	6:35	8:03	5:46	8:43	5:22	9:13	6:52	7:35	7:32	6:35	8:17	5:46
13	6:33	8:04	5:44	8:45	5:22	9:14	6:53	7:33	7:34	6:33	8:19	5:45
14	6:31	8:06	5:43	8:46	5:22	9:14	6:54	7:31	7:35	6:32	8:20	5:44
15	6:29	8:07	5:42	8:47	5:22	9:15	6:56	7:29	7:36	6:30	8:22	5:43
16	6:27	8:08	5:41	8:48	5:22	9:15	6:57	7:27	7:38	6:28	8:23	5:42
17	6:26	8:10	5:39	8:50	5:22	9:16	6:58	7:25	7:39	6:26	8:25	5:40
18	6:24	8:11	5:38	8:51	5:22	9:16	7:00	7:23	7:41	6:24	8:26	5:39
19	6:22	8:12	5:37	8:52	5:22	9:16	7:01	7:21	7:42	6:22	8:27	5:38
20	6:20	8:14	5:36	8:53	5:22	9:17	7:02	7:19	7:43	6:21	8:29	5:37
21	6:18	8:15	5:35	8:54	5:22	9:17	7:04	7:17	7:45	6:19	8:30	5:37
22	6:17	8:17	5:34	8:55	5:23	9:17	7:05	7:15	7:46	6:17	8:32	5:36
23	6:15	8:18	5:33	8:57	5:23	9:17	7:06	7:13	7:48	6:15	8:33	5:35
24	6:13	8:19	5:32	8:58	5:23	9:17	7:08	7:11	7:49	6:14	8:34	5:34
25	6:11	8:21	5:31	8:59	5:24	9:17	7:09	7:09	7:51	6:12	8:36	5:34
26	6:10	8:22	5:30	9:00	5:24	9:17	7:10	7:07	7:52	6:10	8:37	5:33
27	6:08	8:23	5:30	9:01	5:25	9:17	7:12	7:05	7:54	6:09	8:38	5:32
28	6:06	8:25	5:29	9:02	5:25	9:17	7:13	7:03	7:55	6:07	8:40	5:32
29	6:05	8:26	5:28	9:03	5:26	9:17	7:14	7:01	7:57	6:06	8:41	5:31
30	6:03	8:27	5:27	9:04	5:26	9:17	7:16	6:59	7:58	6:04	8:42	5:31
31			5:27	9:05					8:00	6:02		

ZONE 2

INCLUDES: Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Chouteau, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Liberty, Madison, Meagher, Park, Pondera, Powell, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole Counties.

Day	Apr		May		Jun		Sep		Oct		Nov	
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
01	7:07	7:58	6:13	8:38	5:38	9:14	6:49	8:07	7:27	7:07	8:10	6:12
02	7:05	7:59	6:12	8:39	5:38	9:15	6:50	8:05	7:29	7:05	8:12	6:11
03	7:03	8:00	6:10	8:41	5:37	9:16	6:51	8:03	7:30	7:03	7:13	5:08
04	7:01	8:02	6:09	8:42	5:37	9:17	6:52	8:01	7:31	7:01	7:15	5:05
05	6:59	8:03	6:07	8:43	5:36	9:17	6:54	7:59	7:33	6:59	7:16	5:07
06	6:57	8:04	6:06	8:45	5:36	9:18	6:55	7:57	7:34	6:58	7:18	5:05
07	6:55	8:06	6:04	8:46	5:36	9:19	6:56	7:55	7:35	6:56	7:19	5:04
08	6:54	8:07	6:03	8:47	5:35	9:19	6:57	7:53	7:37	6:54	7:21	5:03
09	6:52	8:08	6:01	8:48	5:35	9:20	6:59	7:51	7:38	6:52	7:22	5:01
10	6:50	8:10	6:00	8:50	5:35	9:21	7:00	7:49	7:39	6:50	7:24	5:00
11	6:48	8:11	5:59	8:51	5:35	9:21	7:01	7:47	7:41	6:48	7:25	4:59
12	6:46	8:12	5:57	8:52	5:34	9:22	7:03	7:45	7:42	6:46	7:26	4:58
13	6:44	8:14	5:56	8:54	5:34	9:22	7:04	7:43	7:43	6:44	7:28	4:57
14	6:42	8:15	5:55	8:55	5:34	9:23	7:05	7:41	7:45	6:43	7:29	4:55
15	6:40	8:17	5:54	8:56	5:34	9:23	7:06	7:39	7:46	6:41	7:31	4:54
16	6:39	8:18	5:53	8:57	5:34	9:24	7:08	7:37	7:48	6:39	7:32	4:53
17	6:37	8:19	5:51	8:58	5:34	9:24	7:09	7:35	7:49	6:37	7:34	4:52
18	6:35	8:21	5:50	9:00	5:34	9:24	7:10	7:33	7:50	6:35	7:35	4:51
19	6:33	8:22	5:49	9:01	5:35	9:25	7:12	7:31	7:52	6:34	7:36	4:50
20	6:31	8:23	5:48	9:02	5:35	9:25	7:13	7:29	7:53	6:32	7:38	4:50
21	6:30	8:25	5:47	9:03	5:35	9:25	7:14	7:27	7:55	6:30	7:39	4:49
22	6:28	8:26	5:46	9:04	5:35	9:25	7:15	7:25	7:56	6:28	7:41	4:48
23	6:26	8:27	5:45	9:05	5:35	9:25	7:17	7:23	7:57	6:27	7:42	4:47
24	6:25	8:29	5:44	9:06	5:36	9:25	7:18	7:21	7:59	6:25	7:43	4:46
25	6:23	8:30	5:44	9:07	5:36	9:25	7:19	7:19	8:00	6:23	7:45	4:46
26	6:21	8:31	5:43	9:08	5:37	9:25	7:21	7:17	8:02	6:22	7:46	4:45
27	6:20	8:33	5:42	9:09	5:37	9:25	7:22	7:15	8:03	6:20	7:47	4:44
28	6:18	8:34	5:41	9:10	5:37	9:25	7:23	7:13	8:05	6:18	7:48	4:44
29	6:16	8:35	5:40	9:11	5:38	9:25	7:25	7:11	8:06	6:17	7:50	4:43
30	6:15	8:37	5:40	9:12	5:38	9:25	7:26	7:09	8:07	6:15	7:51	4:43
31			5:39	9:13					8:09	6:14		

Contacts

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks State Headquarters

1420 East 6th Avenue, PO Box 200701,
Helena, MT 59620-0701406-444-2535
Harvest Reporting .1-877-FWP-WILD or 1-877-397-9453
Quota Status1-800-385-7826 or 406-444-1989
Hunter Education406-444-9948
Wildlife406-444-2612
Enforcement406-444-2452
Montana State Parks406-444-3750
Deer, elk, antelope, moose, bighorn sheep,
mountain goat, and all special drawings406-444-2950
Resident and nonresident licensing for
fishing, upland game birds, migratory birds,
black bear, and mountain lion406-444-2535
Telephone Device for the Deaf406-444-1200

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Regional Headquarters

REGION 1

490 N Meridian Rd
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-752-5501



REGION 2

3201 Spurgin Rd
Missoula, MT 59804
406-542-5500

REGION 3

1400 South 19th Ave
Bozeman, MT 59718-5496
406-994-4042

HELENA Area Res Office (HARO)

930 Custer Ave W
Helena, MT 59620
406-495-3260

BUTTE Area Res Office (BARO)

1820 Meadowlark Ln
Butte, MT 59701
406-494-1953

REGION 4

4600 Giant Springs Rd
Great Falls, MT 59405
406-454-5840

LEWISTOWN Area Res Office (LARO)

215 W Aztec Dr
PO Box 938
Lewistown, MT 59457
406-538-4658

REGION 5

2300 Lake Elmo Dr
Billings, MT 59105
406-247-2940

REGION 6

54078 US Hwy 2 W
Glasgow, MT 59230
406-228-3700

HAVRE Area Res Office (HVARO)

2165 Hwy 2 East
Havre, MT 59501
406-265-6177

REGION 7

352 I-94 Business Loop
PO Box 1630
Miles City, MT 59301
406-234-0900

Contacts Outside Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Montana State Agencies

Agriculture
406-444-3144
Guides & Outfitters
406-841-2373
Livestock
406-444-7323
State Lands (DNRC)
406-444-2074
Tourism
406-841-2870

Federal Agencies

US Department of Interior (USDI)
202-208-3100
USDI Fish & Wildlife Service
406-449-5225
USDA Forest Service
406-329-3511

Federal Agencies (cont.)

USDI Bureau of Land Management
406-896-5000
National Weather Service
406-329-4840 (Missoula)

Tribal Lands

Blackfeet Reservation
406-338-7276
Crow Reservation
406-638-2179
Flathead Reservation
406-883-2888 ext 7200
Fort Belknap
406-353-2205
Fort Peck Reservation
406-768-5305
Northern Cheyenne Reservation
406-477-6526
Rocky Boy Reservation
406-395-4207

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